Remarks/Arguments

The Abstract is supplied on a separate page in the Appendix. Page 4 of the specification has been amended.

Respectfully submitted,

Feb. 9, 2005
Date

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APPENDIX

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Catalytic compositions of oxides of titanium, vanadium and tin that are suitable for the production of phthalic anhydride by oxidizing o-xylene and/or naphthalene in the gas phase. The catalysts exhibit excellent activity and selectivity. The catalyst contains 2 to 15 percent by weight (calculated as V_2O_5) of vanadium, 1 to 15 percent weight (calculated as SnO_2) of tin and 70 to 97 percent by weight (calculated as TiO_2) of titanium. In a preferred embodiment the catalyst also contains up to 5 percent by weight (calculated as M_2O) of at least one alkali metal, preferably lithium, potassium or rubidium, and more preferably cesium. In an even more preferred embodiment, cesium is present in an amount of from 0.01 to 2 percent by weight (calculated as Cs_2O).